industrial activities including thermal power plants. The Maharashtra pollution Control Board has monitored carbon monoxide levels at traffic junctions in Bombay. It is observed that the carbon monoxide levels at the traffic junctions were found in the range of 8.2 to 20.8 ppm. These higher levels are due to heavy traffic of automobiles. However, the ambient air quality levels of carbon monoxide in the residential areas are well within the limits. However, from smoking, the carbon monoxide exposure is of several orders of magnitude over the levels that have been found at various traffic junctions in Bombay.

Protection against terrorist activities in coastal areas of Ramanathapuram and Tanjore

*13. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what effective steps are being taken by the defence forces of India to save innocent Indians, living in the coastal areas of Ramanathapuram and Tanjore districts of Tamil Nadu, from the terrorist activities of extremists from a neighbouring country, in view of the recent abduction of customs officials who were later released after cruel treatment; and

(b) whether Government have stationed military forces in this vulnerable area to protect innocent citizens, in view of the need for round the clock vigil in this area; if not, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Appropriate measures have been taken by the State Government to ensure the safety and security of the population living in the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu. A coordination Committee of the concerned State and Central agencies has been set up at the State level for effective and coordinated action. District officials of the affected coastal districts have also been directed to liaise with the Central agencies for coordinated action.

(b) Joint patrols by Indian Naval, Indian Coast Guard and Sri Lankan Naval Ships and aircraft are being carried out along the line of control. Army troops have not been deployed on internal security duties in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu as the situation does not warrant it.

Committee to Review Environmental Policy

*14. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level committee has recently been set up by Government to review the environment policy, with particular reference to protection of tribal interests; if so, what are the terms of reference of the committee;

(b) what are the essential requirements and priority areas likely to be examined by the said committee;

(c) whether the committee has submitted its report to Government; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Committee is likely to submit its report by 17.3.1990.

Statement

An inter-Ministrial Committee has been set up to examine the various issues pertaining to protection of the

rights and concerned enjoyed by tribal people and how their conditions can be improved, giving due attention to long run ecological sustainability and conservation of forests and bio-diversity.

The term of reference of the Committee are given below—

(i) To examine the rights and concessions enjoyed by the tribal communities with regard to access to forest products and to identify measures for improving the access concomitant with sustainable management of resources.

(ii) To examine the implementation of various rules and regulations and to identify measures for improving their efficacy as regards fulfilment of the traditional rights and concessions.

(iii) To review the existing measures for participation of tribals in forestry programmes and to propose measures for strengthening the same.

(iv) To review the tribal subplan and to recommend measures for qualitative and quantitative improvement in implementing the various programmes.

Environmental dangers of Tehri Dam

*15. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's assessment of the apprehensions expressed about the safety and feasibility of the Tehri Dam and danger posed by it to the environment; and

(b) whether the Committee appointed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests has come to any conclusions; if so, the main findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Apprehensions have been expressed by local people regarding safety and feasibiltiy of the Tehri Dam Project right from its inception. Environmental aspects of the project were, however, not examined when the project was originally approved in 1972. The standing Environmental Appraisal Committee for River Valley Projects has now examined the related environmental aspects and submitted its report which is under consideration.

Compulsory National Service Scheme for college students

*16. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to start a Compulsory National Service Scheme (NSS) for college students to involve them actively in community services in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, what are the outlines and the time-schedule of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.